

Appl. No. 09/924,746  
Amnd. Dated July 19, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of May 19, 2005

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**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (presently amended): In a WDM communication system, a transmitter comprising:

a plurality of lasers assigned to transmit optical signals on a corresponding plurality of WDM channels;

a multiplexer that combines said plurality of optical signals onto a single fiber to form a composite WDM signal;

an optical channel monitor that monitors said composite WDM signal to determine wavelengths of said plurality of optical signals;

a control block that controls transmission wavelengths of said plurality of lasers to match wavelengths of said optical signals to desired WDM channel positions; and

~~an~~ a variable optical attenuator that blocks further transmission of said composite WDM signal when said optical channel monitor determines that a wavelength of at least one of said plurality of lasers is outside a desired range.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (original): The transmitter of claim 1 further comprising:

a tap coupler that splits off a portion of said composite WDM signal for monitoring by said optical channel monitor.

Claim 4 (original): The transmitter of claim 1 wherein said optical channel monitor comprises:

a tunable filter that is tuned through a spectrum of said WDM signal;

a photodetector, coupled to an output of said tunable filter, that detects peaks of said WDM signal.